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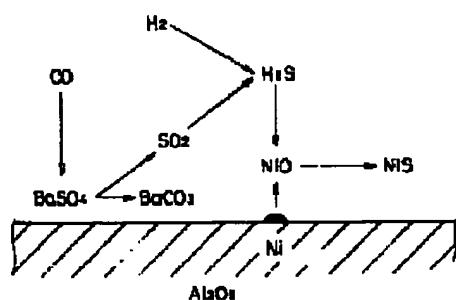
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(54) EXHAUST EMISSION CONTROL DEVICE

(57) Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To quickly recover the emission control capacity of an NOx-occluding reduction catalyst incorporated into an exhaust emission control device together with an upstream three-way catalyst.

SOLUTION: An NOx-occluding reduction catalyst carries Ni as a catalyst on its alumina-carrying layer. When the engine is operated in a rich air-fuel ratio range, a reducing atmosphere is produced about the NOx catalyst, which atmosphere triggers a reaction of converting NiO into NiS with consumption of H₂S. Such consumption in turn promotes consumption of SO₂ and a reaction of converting BaSO₄ or a sulfur oxide depositing on the NOx catalyst into BaCO₃ or an NOx occluding agent in an oxidizing atmosphere thereby recovering the emission control capacity of the NOx catalyst.



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